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10/747,646	12/29/2003	Jasvantrai Shah	RIC99067	5723

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VERIZON
PATENT MANAGEMENT GROUP
1320 North Court House Road
9th Floor
ARLINGTON, VA 22201-2909

EXAMINER	
WOLDEKIDAN, HIBRET ASNAKE	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2613	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/747,646	SHAH, JASVANTRAI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	HIBRET WOLDEKIDAN	2613	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 May 2011*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,6,11,15 and 16* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *11* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,6,15 and 16* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *29 December 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Examiner acknowledges receipt of Applicant's Amendments, remarks, arguments received on 05/12/2011. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 1,6,15,16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Erickson et al (6,882,765) in view of Walters(US 2002/0176131) further in view of Wing So(US 2002/0109879, herein after Wing).

Considering claim 1, Erickson discloses a method comprising: providing, in an optical network, an optical cross-connect system (OXC) having a working port and a spare port**(See Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. providing an OXC(1504) having a working port(1541B) and a protection port(1532). Further as discussed in Col. 13 lines 10-21, an optical cross-connect(OXC) deployed in a telecommunication network which communicates with other network equipment(routers) via optical transmission links(1506). This shows that the OXC is provided in an optical**

network)); providing a router having a working port to transmit or receive data to or from the working port of the OXC and a protection port to transmit or receive data to or from the spare port of the OXC**(See Col. 19 lines 5-7,Col. 20 lines 22-26, Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. a router(1502) having a working port (1521_A) and a protection port(1522) to bidirectionally receive and transmit optical signals from the OXC(1504))**; detecting a failure in the router(**See Col. 22 lines 64-67, fig. 17b i.e. detecting a failure in the router(1502) by a port 1521A)**; sending an out-of-band signal from the router to the OXC**(See Col. 23 lines 1-8, fig. 17b i.e. after the router(1502) detects a failure in one of the links(1702), the router(1502) sends a signal to the OXC). Further discussed in lines 7-8 of the abstract, an out-of band signal is used to signal the connection failure. Further as discussed in Col. 23 lines 8-18, fig. 17a , when a connection failure(1702) occurs, the router(1502) detects the failure and sends an out-of-band signal over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504))**, where the out-of-band signal indicates the failure of the router**(See Col. 23 lines 8-18, abstract, fig. 17a i.e. the out-of band signal is used to indicate failure(See abstract). Further as discussed in Col. 23 lines 8-18, fig. 17a, when a connection failure(1702) occurs, the router(1502) detects the connection failure and sends an out-of-band signal over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504)). Further discussed in Col. 2 lines 50-55, the connection failure can be in the network element itself which is the router);** causing the working port of the OXC to connect to the protection port of the router in response to detection of the out-of-band signal**(See Col. 23 lines 13-15,28-41, fig. 17a i.e. after the router(1502) detects the**

failure(1702) and the OXC(1504) being signaled about the failure via the out-of-band signal, causing a working port(1540B) of the OXC(1504) to connect to the protection port(1522) of the router(1502)) and transmitting data from the router to the OXC via the protection port**(See Col. 23 lines 34-41, fig. 17b i.e. fig. 17 the OXC working port(1541B) connects to the router protection port(1522) to transmit signal via the protection port).**

Erickson discloses a router(1502) having a protection port(1522) and a working port(1521A) **(See Col. 20 lines 22-26, Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. the a router(1502) having a working port (1521_A) and a protection port(1522) to bidirectionally receive and transmit optical signals from the OXC(1504))**, and OXC having a protection port(1332) and a working port(1541B)**(See Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. providing an OXC(1504) having a working port(1541B) and a protection port(1332))**. UPON detecting of a failure in the router, transmitting data using a protection port**(See Col. 23 lines 28-41, fig. 17b i.e. fig. 17 b Upon router detects a failure in one of the links(1702), the router(1502) sends a signal to the OXC(1504), as a result, a working port(1540B) of the OXC(1504) connects to the protection port(1522) of the router(1522))**.

Erickson does not explicitly disclose a working port to transmit or receive high priority data and a protection port to transmit or receive low priority data where the transmission of low priority data is preempted by the transmission of the high priority data, in response to the failure; and transmitting high priority data via a protection port.

Walters teaches a working port to transmit or receive high priority data **(See Paragraph 508, fig. 53 i.e. during normal operation, transmitting a high priority data using path(5310, shown by a solid line). The first path)** and a protection port to transmit or receive low priority data **(See Paragraph 508, fig. 53 i.e. during normal operation, transmitting low priority data using path(5312, shown by a dashed line))** where the transmission of low priority data is preempted by the transmission of the high priority data, in response to the failure**(See Paragraph 487,508, fig. 53 i.e. when a failure occurs affecting the high priority data path, the low priority data path preempted and rerouting the high priority data over the low priority data path)**; and transmitting high priority data via a protection port**(See Paragraph 487,508, fig. 53 i.e. transmitting high priority data using the low priority data path)**.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Erickson, and have a working port of to transmit or receive high priority data and a protection port to transmit or receive low priority data where the transmission of low priority data to be preempted by the transmission of the high priority data, in response to the failure; and transmitting high priority data via a protection port, as taught by Walters, thus providing a reliable and efficient data transmission system by utilizing the usage of bandwidth by using protection path to carry pre-emptable traffic so that incase of a failure, high priority data can be transmitted using the preemtable protection path so that data loss can be minimized and time sensitive data can reach their destination in a timely manner, as discussed by Walters**(Paragraph 6)**.

Erickson and Walters disclose sending an out-of-band signal from the router to the OXC**(See Col. 23 lines 13-18, Col. 15 lines 51-55, abstract, fig. 17a,13 sending an out-of-band signal from the router(1502) over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504) . Further as discussed in Col. 23 lines 8-18, fig. 17a , when a connection failure(1702) occurs, the router(1502) detects the failure and sends an out-of-band signal over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504))**, via an Internet Protocol address **(See Erickson: Col. 14 lines 23-25 i.e. the out-of-band signaling channel is provided on via the internet, LAN, a MAN, or other WAN(See Col. 14 lines 23-26); therefore in order the out-of-band signal to be transmitted via the internet, it has to have an internet protocol(IP) address).** Erickson also discloses the router(1502) is an ip router**(See Col. 19 lines 5-7)**.

Ericson and Walters do not explicitly disclose that an Internet Protocol address associated with the OXC.

Wing teaches that an Internet Protocol address associated with the OXC**(See Paragraph 170,172,173,623,169, fig. 4 i.e. OXC having IP addresses. Further shown in fig. 4, Paragraph 170, IP routers being communicated with OXC and each IP router assigned with IP addresses and the OXC links are also assigned with IP addresses)**.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Erickson and Walters, and have an Internet Protocol address to be associated with the OXC, as taught by Wing, thus enabling the system to

direct the signal to the right destination using the IP addresses, as discussed by Wing**(Paragraph 169)**.

Considering claim 6 Erickson discloses a method comprising: providing, in an optical network, an optical cross-connect system (OXC) having a working port and a spare port**(See Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. providing an OXC(1504) having a working port(1541B) and a protection port(1532). Further as discussed in Col. 13 lines 10-21, an optical cross-connect(OXC) deployed in a telecommunication network which communicates with other network equipments(routers) via optical transmission links(1506). This shows that the OXC is provided in an optical network))**; providing a router having a working port to transmit or receive data to or from the working port of the OXC and a protection port to transmit or receive data to or from the spare port of the OXC**(See Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. a router(1502) having a working port (1521_{A-N}) and a protection port(1522) to receive and transmit optical signals from the OXC(1504))**; receiving, from the router, an out-of-band signal at the OXC disclose receiving, from the router, an out-of-band signal at the OXC **(See Col. 23 lines 13-18, Col. 15 lines 51-55, abstract, fig. 17a,13 i.e. receiving an out-of-band signal from the router(1502) over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504). Further as discussed in Col. 23 lines 8-18, fig. 17a , when a connection failure(1702) occurs, the router(1502) detects the failure and sends an out-of-band signal over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504))**, via an Internet Protocol address **(See Col. 14 lines 23-25 i.e. the out-of-band signaling channel is provided on via the internet, LAN, a MAN, or other WAN(See Col. 14 lines 23-26); in order**

the out-of-band signal to be transmitted via the internet, it has to have an internet protocol(IP) address),the out-of-band signal indicating a failure of the working port of the router**(See Col. 23 lines 8-18, abstract, fig. 17a i.e. the out-of band signal is used to indicate failure(See abstract). Further as discussed in Col. 23 lines 8-18, fig. 17a, when a connection failure (1702) occurs, the router(1502) detects the connection failure and sends an out-of-band signal over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504)). Further discussed in Col. 2 lines 50-55, the connection failure can be in different location including the network element port which is the router port)**; connecting the protection port of the router to the working port of the OXC in response to receiving the out-of-band signal **(See Col. 23 lines 1-5,13-18 and lines 28-41, fig. 17b i.e. after the router(1502) detects a failure in one of the links(1702), the router(1502) sends an out-of band signal to the oxc(1504). In response, the OXC working port(1541B) connects to the router(1502) protection port(1522)).**

Ericson discloses a router(1502) having a protection port(1522) and a working port(1521A) **(See Col. 20 lines 22-26, Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. the a router(1502) having a working port (1521_A) and a protection port(1522) to bidirectionally receive and transmit optical signals from the OXC(1504))**, and OXC having a protection port(1332) and a working port(1541B)**(See Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. providing an OXC(1504) having a working port(1541B) and a protection port(1332))**. UPON detecting of a failure in the working port of the router , transmitting data using a protection port**(See Col. 23 lines 28-41, fig. 17b i.e. fig. 17 b Upon router detects a failure in one of the links(1702), the router(1502) sends a signal to**

the OXC(1504), as a result, a working port(1540B) of the OXC(1504) connects to the protection port(1522) of the router(1522). Further discussed in Col. 2 lines 50-55, the connection failure can be in different location including the network element port which is the router port).

Erickson does not explicitly disclose a working port to transmit or receive high priority data and a protection port to transmit or receive low priority data where the transmission of low priority data is preempted by the transmission of the high priority data, in response to the failure router; and transmitting high priority data via a protection port.

Walters teaches a working port to transmit or receive high priority data **(See Paragraph 508, fig. 53 i.e. transmitting a high priority data using path(5310, shown by a solid line))** and a protection port to transmit or receive low priority data **(See Paragraph 508, fig. 53 i.e. transmitting low priority data using path(5312, shown by a dashed line))** where the transmission of low priority data is preempted by the transmission of the high priority data, in response to the failure**(See Paragraph 487,508, fig. 53 i.e. when a failure occurs affecting the high priority data path, the low priority data path preempted and rerouting the high priority data over the low priority data path)**; and transmitting high priority data via a protection port**(See Paragraph 487,508, fig. 53 i.e. transmitting high priority data using the low priority data path)**.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Erickson, and have a working port to transmit or receive

high priority data and a protection port to transmit or receive low priority data where the transmission of low priority data to be preempted by the transmission of the high priority data, in response to the failure; and transmitting high priority data via a protection port, as taught by Walters, thus providing a reliable and efficient data transmission system by utilizing the usage of bandwidth by using protection path to carry pre-emptable traffic so that incase of a failure, high priority data can be transmitted using the preemtable protection path so that data loss can be minimized and time sensitive data can reach their destination in a timely manner, as discussed by Walters**(Paragraph 6)**.

Erickson and Walters disclose receiving, from the router, an out-of-band signal at the OXC **(See Erickson: Col. 23 lines 13-18, Col. 15 lines 51-55, abstract, fig. 17a,13 receiving an out-of-band signal from the router(1502) over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504). Further as discussed in Col. 23 lines 8-18, fig. 17a , when a connection failure(1702) occurs, the router(1502) detects the failure and sends an out-of-band signal over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504))**, via an Internet Protocol address **(See Erickson: Col. 14 lines 23-25 i.e. the out-of-band signaling channel is provided on via the internet, LAN, a MAN, or other WAN(See Col. 14 lines 23-26); in order the out-of-band signal to be transmitted via the internet, it has to have an internet protocol(IP) address)**,the out-of-band signal indicating a failure of the working port of the router**(See Erickson: Col. 23 lines 8-18, abstract, fig. 17a i.e. the out-of band signal is used to indicate failure(See abstract). Further as discussed in Col. 23 lines 8-18, fig. 17a, when a connection failure (1702) occurs, the router(1502) detects the connection failure and sends an out-of-band signal**

over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504)). Further discussed in Col. 2 lines 50-55, the connection failure can be in different location including the network element port which is the router port). Erickson and Walters further disclose the router(1502) is an ip router**(See Erickson: Col. 19 lines 5-7)**.

Ericson and Walters do not explicitly disclose that an Internet Protocol address associated with the OXC.

Wing teaches that an Internet Protocol address associated with the OXC**(See Paragraph 170,172,173,623,169, fig. 4 i.e. OXC having IP addresses. Further shown in fig. 4, Paragraph 170, IP routers being communicated with OXC and each IP router assigned with IP addresses and the OXC links are also assigned with IP addresses)**.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Erickson and Walters, and have an Internet Protocol address to be associated with the OXC, as taught by Wing, thus enabling the system to direct the signal to the right destination using the IP addresses, as discussed by Wing**(Paragraph 169)**.

Considering claim 15, Erickson discloses a communications network for transmitting data, the communication network comprising: an optical cross-connect system (OXC) having a working port and a spare port, the OXC being located in an optical network**(See Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. providing an OXC(1504) having a working port(1541B) and a protection port(1332). Further as discussed in Col.**

13 lines 10-21, an optical cross-connect(OXC) deployed in a telecommunication network which communicates with other network equipment(routers) via optical transmission links(1506). This shows that the OXC is located in an optical network)); and a router to receive the data from a terminal **(See Col 19 lines 1-7 i.e. a router which is a client node(1502) for receiving data from other units)**, the router comprising:

a working port to transmit or receive data to or from the working port of the OXC**(See Col. 20 lines 22-26, fig. 17B i.e. the router(1502) has a working port(1521A) to transmit data bidirectionally to/from the OXC(1504))**; and a protection port **(See Col. 23 lines 34-36, fig. 17B i.e. the router(1502) has a protection port(1522) to bidirectionally communicate with protection port of the OXC(1504))**, where upon detection of a failure of the working port of the router, the router sends an out-of-band signal, indicating the failure**(See Col. 23 lines 1-8, fig. 17b i.e. after the router(1502) detects a failure, the router(1502) sends a signal to the OXC). Further discussed in lines 7-8 of the abstract, an out-of band signal is transmitted to indicate the failure. Further as discussed in Col. 23 lines 8-18, fig. 17a , when a connection failure(1702) occurs, the router(1502) detects the failure and sends an out-of-band signal over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504). Further discussed in Col. 2 lines 50-55, the connection failure can be in different location including the network element port which is the router port)**, via an Internet protocol address **(See Col. 14 lines 23-25 i.e. the out-of-band signaling channel is provided on via the internet, LAN, a MAN, or other WAN(See Col. 14 lines 23-26), therefore in order the out-of-**

band signal to be transmitted via the internet it has to have an internet protocol(IP) address), and the input protection port of the router connects to the working port of the OXC **(Col. 23 lines 28-41, Col. 22 lines 57-60,fig. 17b i.e. upon detecting of failure in the working port of a router(1531A), the router(1502) internally switches from its working port(1521) to its protection port(1532) to transmit signal to the working port(1541B) of the OXC(1504)).**

Erickson discloses a router(1502) having a protection port(1522) and a working port(1521A) **(See Col. 20 lines 22-26, Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. the a router(1502) having a working port (1521_A) and a protection port(1522) to bidirectionally receive and transmit optical signals from the OXC(1504))**, and OXC having a protection port(1332) and a working port(1541B)**(See Col. 23 lines 33-41, fig. 17b i.e. providing an OXC(1504) having a working port(1541B) and a protection port(1332))**. UPON detecting of a failure in the router, transmitting data using a protection port**(See Col. 23 lines 28-41, fig. 17b i.e. fig. 17 b Upon router detects a failure in one of the links(1702), the router(1502) sends a signal to the OXC(1504), as a result, a working port(1540B) of the OXC(1504) connects to the protection port(1522) of the router(1522))**.

Erickson does not explicitly disclose a working port to transmit or receive high priority data and a protection port to transmit or receive low priority data where the transmission of low priority data is preempted by the transmission of the high priority data, in response to the failure; and transmitting high priority data via a protection port.

Walters teaches a working port to transmit or receive high priority data **(See Paragraph 508, fig. 53 i.e. transmitting a high priority data using path(5310, shown by a solid line))** and a protection port to transmit or receive low priority data **(See Paragraph 508, fig. 53 i.e. transmitting low priority data using path(5312, shown by a dashed line))** where the transmission of low priority data is preempted by the transmission of the high priority data, in response to the failure**(See Paragraph 487,508, fig. 53 i.e. when a failure occurs affecting the high priority data path, the low priority data path preempted and rerouting the high priority data over the low priority data path)**; and transmitting high priority data via a protection port**(See Paragraph 487,508, fig. 53 i.e. transmitting high priority data using the low priority data path)**.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Erickson, and have a working port to transmit or receive high priority data and a protection port to transmit or receive low priority data where the transmission of low priority data to be preempted by the transmission of the high priority data, in response to the failure; and transmitting high priority data via a protection port, as taught by Walters, thus providing a reliable and efficient data transmission system by utilizing the usage of bandwidth by using protection path to carry pre-emptable traffic so that incase of a failure, high priority data can be transmitted using the preemtable protection path so that data loss can be minimized and time sensitive data can reach their destination in a timely manner, as discussed by Walters**(Paragraph 6)**.

Erickson and Walters disclose sending an out-of-band signal from the router to the OXC**(See Col. 23 lines 13-18, Col. 15 lines 51-55, abstract, fig. 17a,13 sending an out-of-band signal from the router(1502) over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504) . Further as discussed in Col. 23 lines 8-18, fig. 17a , when a connection failure(1702) occurs, the router(1502) detects the failure and sends an out-of-band signal over channel(1514) to the OXC(1504))**, via an Internet Protocol address **(See Erickson: Col. 14 lines 23-25 i.e. since the out-of-band signaling channel is provided on via the internet, LAN, a MAN, or other WAN(See Col. 14 lines 23-26), in order the out-of-band signal to be transmitted via the internet it has to have an internet protocol(IP) address).** Erickson also discloses the router(1502) is an ip router**(See Col. 19 lines 5-7)**.

Ericson and Walters do not explicitly disclose that an Internet Protocol address associated with the OXC.

Wing teaches that an Internet Protocol address associated with the OXC**(See Paragraph 170,172,173,623,169, fig. 4 i.e. OXC having IP addresses. Further shown in fig. 4, Paragraph 170, IP routers being communicated with OXC and each IP router assigned with IP addresses and the OXC links are also assigned with IP addresses)**.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Erickson and Walters, and have an Internet Protocol address to be associated with the OXC, as taught by Wing, thus enabling the system to

direct the signal to the right destination using the IP addresses, as discussed by Wing**(Paragraph 169)**.

Considering Claim 16 Erickson discloses the communications network of claim 15, where the out-of-band signal is to cause the OXC to connect the input protection port to the input working port of the OXC **(See Col. 23 line 6-27, fig. 17a,b i.e. after the router(1502) detects a failure, the router(1502) sends an out-of-band signal to the OXC, causing the OXC to connect the input protection port(1522) to the working port of the OXC(1541B))**.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 11 is allowed.

Conclusions

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HIBRET WOLDEKIDAN whose telephone number is (571)270-5145. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kenneth Vanderpuye can be reached on 5712723078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/H. W./
Examiner, Art Unit 2613

/KENNNETH N VANDERPUYE/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2613